

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRASIL 01201 201452Z

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 L-02 COA-01 EB-03 SPC-01 DRC-01

RSC-01 SSO-00 /034 W

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O 201435Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO CITY IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1889

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRASILIA 1201

LIMDIS

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY KUBISCH

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR BR

SUBJ: DEALING WITH BRAZILIANS ON LOS AT THE MFM

1. IN REVIEWING ACTION MEMORANDUM ON LOS ISSUE PREPARED FOR SECRETARY FOR POSSIBLE USE AT MFM, EMBASSY NOTED DISCUSSION OF POSSIBLE WAYS OF DEALING WITH ISSUE AND, IN PARTICULAR, RECOMMENDATION THAT SECRETARY "AGREE TO RAISE ISSUE IN GENERAL REMARKS AND BILATERAL MEETINGS AND INDICATE OUR INTEREST IN PRIVATE BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS IN ORDER TO PROMOTE COMMON AGREEMENT ON MAJOR ISSUE."

2. ALTHOUGH WE DO NOT KNOW WHETHER RECOMMENDATION HAS BEEN ADOPTED, EMBASSY CONSIDERS IT INADVISABLE TO APPLY IT TO BILATERAL EXCHANGE WITH BRAZILIAN FOREIGN MINISTER. SINCE THERE IS CONSIDERABLE EVIDENCE THAT GOB IS BECOMING PROGRESSIVELY MORE UNEASY ABOUT ITS ISOLATION FROM OTHER COUNTRIES, INCLUDING THOSE OF THE HEMISPHERE, ON LOS ISSUE, WE CONSIDER THAT IT IS IN OUR INTEREST TO LET GOB STEW IN ITS OWN JUICE, AVOIDING ANY ACTIONS THAT MIGHT BE INTERPRETED, HOWEVER ERRONEOUSLY, BY GOB AS INDICATING MOVEMENT BY USG TOWARD BRAZIL'S POSITION. INASMUCH AS IT HAS BEEN CONSISTENT GOB STRATEGY TO MAINTAIN
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PAGE 02 BRASIL 01201 201452Z

ITS EXTREME POSITION UP UNTIL LOS CONFERENCE WHEN IT WOULD

BE PREPARED TO BARGAIN, OUR EXPECTATION IS THAT GIBSON BARBOZA WOULD NOT IN ANY CASE BE IN A POSITION TO DO MORE THAN CLING TO CURRENT RIGID POSITION. THAT EXPECTATION IS STRENGTHENED BY FACT THAT GIBSON BARBOZA REPRESENTS LAME-DUCK GOVERNMENT WHICH HAS NO AUTHORITY OR DISPOSITION TO MOVE ON SUCH AN IMPORTANT MATTER. BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS WITH GOB ON LOS SHOULD AWAIT ADVENT AND SETTLING IN OF NEW GOVERNMENT.

3. THE EMBASSY RECOMMENDS THEREFORE THAT THE SECRETARY NOT RAISE LOS ISSUE IN BILATERAL DISCUSSION WITH FOREIGN MINISTER GIBSON BARBOZA.
CRIMMINS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LAW OF THE SEA, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 FEB 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974BRASIL01201
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: BRASILIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740222/aaaaaurr.tel
Line Count: 74
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 SEP 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 SEP 2002 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <09 DEC 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DEALING WITH BRAZILIANS ON LOS AT THE MFM
TAGS: PFOR, BR
To: MEXICO
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005